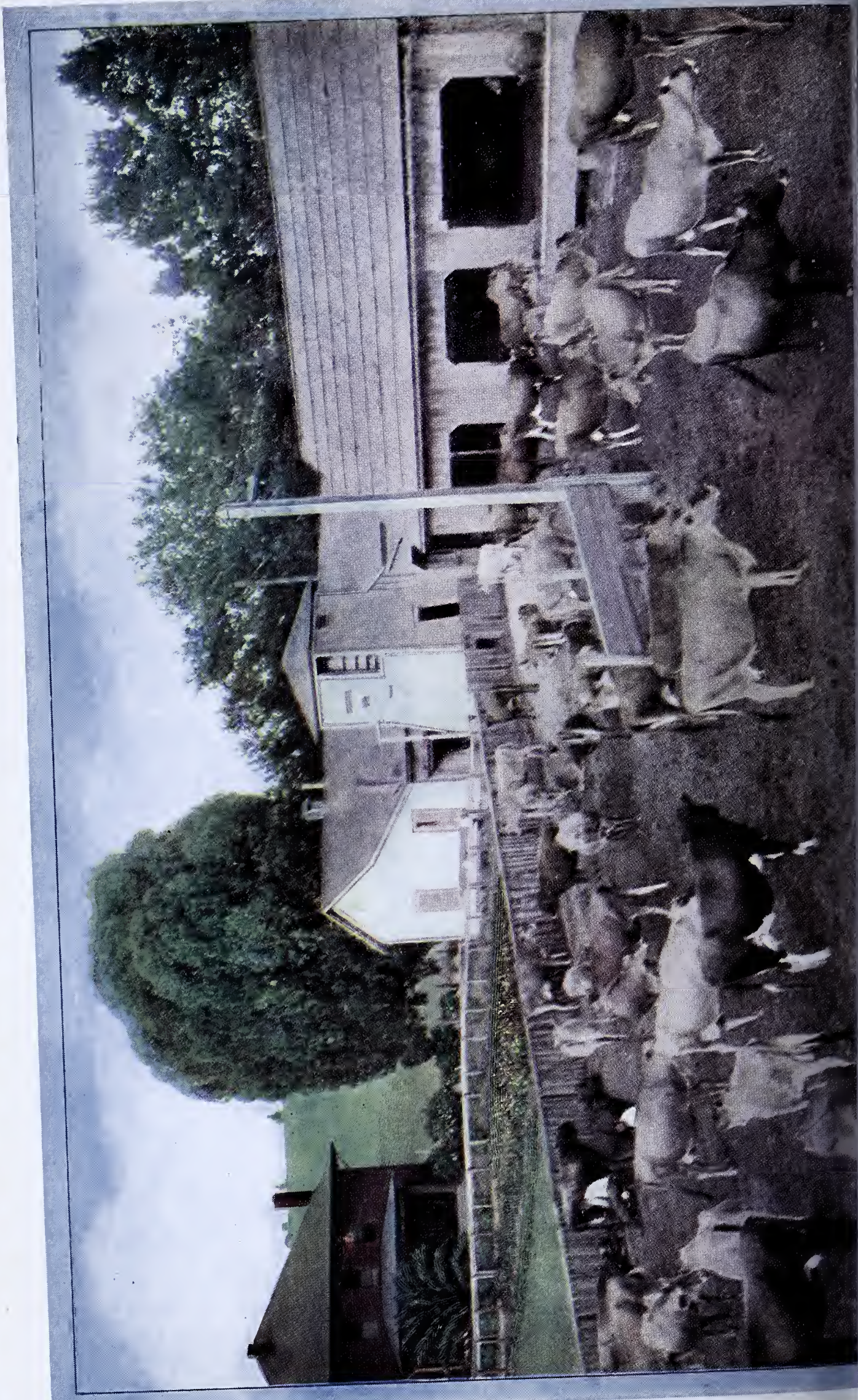


# Humboldt County

## CALIFORNIA









# Humboldt County, California

## Location and General Description

Humboldt County is situated on the northwestern coast of California, its northern boundary line being 37 miles south of Oregon, from which it is separated by the intervening county of Del Norte.

In shape it is an irregular rectangle 108 miles long north and south, with an average width of 35 miles. Its land area is 3634 square miles, equivalent to 2,325,760 acres.

It is a mountainous region, rising from the tide level of the Pacific on its western border to the summits of the Coast Range mountains on the east, where the general elevation is from 3,000 to 5,000 feet. The general direction of the mountain ridges, as well as of the numerous rivers and streams flowing between them, is northwesterly. A prominent headland on its coast line,—Cape Mendocino, is one of the most westerly points of land in the United States proper.

Viewed from the sea, the entire county appears to be covered with an almost unbroken forest from the ocean beach to the mountain summits of its eastern boundary; but in reality less than one fifth of its area is forest proper. Throughout most of the coast the land rises almost immediately from the ocean, and the hills and mountain ridges gradually increase in elevation until the summits of the eastern boundary are attained. But for a space of about 35 miles near to the center of Humboldt's coast line the elevation is much more gradual, and in this depressed portion of the otherwise bold coast are found the principal harbors, the mouths of two most important rivers, nearly all the principal cities and towns, and upwards of three fourths of the entire population of the county.

Near to and parallel with the coast throughout the entire length of the county north and south, extends the famous redwood belt, the most compact body of commercial timber on the face of the continent. This belt varies from one to fifteen miles in width, averaging about five miles. For nearly the entire northern half of its extent, this belt of timber is near to the coast, never more than two or three miles from the ocean. But beginning with the depressed portion of the coast line above mentioned, just north of the center of the county north and south, the redwood belt falls away to the eastward, giving from one to fifteen miles of open land, between the redwood belt and the coast. It is in this space that the bulk of the arable land of the county is found; and where the natural hilliness of this portion prevents the land from being ranked as tillable, it is then





HIGHWAY THROUGH REDWOOD FOREST.



the best of grazing lands in the county, its proximity to the climatic influences of the ocean insuring green pastures practically the year round.

East of the redwood belt is found the principal grazing section of the county. It is practically all hilly and mountainous, and about one half covered with more or less scattering forests of pine, oak, or other woods, or with brush. The remainder is open land, in which nutritious wild grasses, native to the country, thrive luxuriously, and furnish food to the thousands of cattle and sheep pasturing on the hills of Humboldt. Along the streams cutting through this hilly region are many small pieces of fine bottom land, and the benches and plateaus of the hills offer many small but choice home sites; for the soil is everywhere fertile, and will produce excellent crops of grain, hay, vegetables, berries, fruits, and nuts. It is in this region that the principal agricultural development of the county is to be forecasted.

**Streams.** The county is well watered by numerous rivers and streams which, rising in the mountains to the east and south, flow in a general northerly direction to the ocean. The generous and well distributed rainfall and absence of excessive summer heat make practically all these streams perennial, so that a dry creek is here a novelty.

Eel river, the most important of these streams, enters the northeastern part of the county in two branches, which unite and continue to the ocean some seven miles south of Humboldt Bay. Mad River is a considerable stream flowing entirely across the northern portion of the county, its mouth being three or four miles north of Humboldt Bay. The Klamath and the Trinity rivers traverse the northern portion of the county, the former entering the county five miles north of the northern boundary. The Mattole river, Bear river, Vanduzen river, Elk river, Maple creek, and Redwood creek are all considerable streams with the same general northerly direction; and with their branches furnish drainage highways for the abundant rainfall of this region.

**Harbors.** Without direct rail connection until the latter part of 1914, Humboldt is blessed with a compensating natural feature in Humboldt Bay, the only safe landlocked harbor between San Francisco and the Oregon line. The bay is fourteen miles long and from one to four miles wide, with a tidal area of 25.32 miles, and 21 lineal miles of navigable channels. Its channel entrance being naturally shallow and variable, the United States government in 1889 began to improve it by building a jetty of rock on either side to confine the tidal flow; the jetties being each about a mile and a half in length. When completed in 1889, at a cost of a little over \$2,000,000, they served their purpose admirably, and for a number of years maintained a deep and constant channel. But the winter storms finally battered the jetties down too low to restrain the tidal currents, and in 1912 the





YACHTING ON HUMBOLDT BAY.

government undertook their restoration. By August 1, 1914, this work was about half completed, and had cost \$1,037,400. The piers are being rebuilt higher and broader than they were originally, and hence they are expected to more effectually resist the action of the storm waves.

Trinidad Bay, 18 miles north of Humboldt Bay, is a deep, open port, well sheltered from all winds except those from the quadrant south to west.

Shelter Cove, near the southern boundary of the county, is an open roadstead affording excellent shelter from the northwesterly winds of summer.

The lands of the County are classified as follows:	
<b>lands.</b> Timber land area .....	884,000 acres
Denuded forest (stump land) .....	93,000 "
Cultivable land area .....	500,000 "
Grazing land area .....	600,000 "
Marsh land area .....	30,000 "
Mineral land area .....	125,000 "
Waste land area .....	93,760 "

The redwood timber forests are estimated to have originally covered 538,000 acres. About 84,000 acres of this have been cut, leaving 454,000 acres still standing. At the accepted estimate of 100,000 feet of all kinds of lumber products per acre, there is still standing 45,000,000,000 feet of redwood timber; enough to last more than a century at the present rate of cutting, which is about 5,000,000 feet per year. This immense amount of standing timber constitutes the greatest present asset of the county, as at the moderate estimate of \$2.00 per thousand feet of stumpage, it is now worth over \$90,000,000, with a constantly increasing value.

Of the other timbers,—pine, fir, spruce, alder, cottonwood, pepperwood, oak, etc., no very accurate estimate of the amount of standing timber is possible. But the total acreage of these is over 1,000,000, and in the aggregate they comprise an immense resource to the county. One of these timbers,—Oregon pine (Douglas fir), grows more or less intermingled with the redwood, and is cut and sawed along with that timber in nearly all the mills of the county. It is a valuable timber for shipbuilding as well as housebuilding; and the more that 200 ocean going vessels that have been launched from the shipyards of Humboldt Bay have been built exclusively from this timber.

Of the hardwood timbers here pepperwood (California laurel) is the only one that has as yet been much used commercially. But various species of oak found here, and especially the tan bark oak of which timber only the bark has so far been utilized, offer resources well fitted to the various uses to which hardwoods can be put, and these grow in sufficient quantities to constitute a very considerable resource in Humboldt.







The cut-over timber lands, if approximately level, are among the most productive of lands here, when cleared. If hilly, they will make good grazing lands; and when favorably situated are valuable for fruit and berry culture.

Of the 500,000 acres of land classed as cultivable, the United States census report for 1910 give 105,248 acres as the amount of "improved lands in farms"; and it is probable that this acreage constitutes fully 80 per cent of the level land in Humboldt. The remainder is made up of the level uncut timber lands, the unimproved marsh lands, the rolling hills, and their benches and plateaus.

The 600,000 acres of hill grazing land is the principal undeveloped land asset of the county. Heretofore used almost solely for stockraising purposes, much of this land is destined to produce the best of fruit;—apples, pears, plums, prunes, cherries, berries, and such. The soil and climatic conditions are there, and as transportation facilities improve, this land will be more and more utilized for fruit raising.

The unimproved marsh lands are near the mouth of Eel river and around Humboldt Bay. When improved they will become the best of the dairy lands of the county.

The mineral land area is principally in the northeastern portion of the county, along the Klamath and Trinity rivers. Here placer mining for gold has been carried on for many years, and of late years river dredging and quartz mining have been added. A small amount of platinum is found along with the gold. There are many copper outcroppings throughout this section, and at Horse Mountain, near the head waters of Willow Creek, two copper propositions are being thoroughly prospected and developed by local capital.

The soil of Humboldt is practically all productive. In a state of nature only the very smallest portion of its surface was without its green covering of forest, shrub, and grasses. The heavy and deep bottom lands of Eel river, Mad River, Mattole river, and around Humboldt Bay are of unsurpassed fertility. Formerly immense crops of oats, potatoes, pease, and other grains and vegetables were raised on these lands, but it has been found that they are so well adapted to producing green feed for cattle that their former use has been almost universally abandoned, and they are now given over to dairying. On the higher lands where dairying cannot be so successfully conducted, much hay and grain are raised. On the hill grazing lands, where the soil is not so deep as on the bottom lands, it is still surprisingly productive; and it is on record that the first prizes for both quality and yield per acre in wheat at the World's Exposition at Chicago were taken by wheat produced on the bench lands near Blocksburg.





NURSERY NEAR ROHNERVILLE.



A STRAWBERRY PATCH.



**Climate.** California climate is good climate wherever found, but owing to the vast size of the State, and its varying topography, there are wide variations in its climate. That of Humboldt, influenced by its position along the northwestern coast where the modifying influence of the Japan current is most strongly felt, is cooler, damper, and more equable than are the sunnier climes of the interior and the southland. The average annual rainfall of approximately 45 inches is so well distributed that no season of the year is normally without precipitation, and to this fact may be attributed the perennial green hills, green fields, and greener redwoods of Humboldt.

In evenness of temperature no land station of the United States Weather Bureau can show a record superior to that of Eureka. Here the mean daily range is less than 11 degrees. The absolute maximum is 85.2 degrees, and the absolute minimum is 29.3 degrees. The average maximum is 76 degrees, and the average minimum is 29.1 degrees. The annual mean temperature is 51.6 degrees. The seasonal mean temperatures are as follows:—winter, 47 degrees; spring, 50 degrees; summer, 55 degrees; autumn, 53 degrees. The three summer months of June, July, and August are exceptionally cool and equable, the thermometer usually ranging between 46 and 66 degrees, with a daily range of less than 9 degrees. For about one half of the winters, Eureka is entirely without snowfall; and the average annual snowfall is 61/100 of an inch.

The temperature and rainfall above given are for Eureka and the coast section of Humboldt. Distance from the ocean, mountain topography, and elevation give to the interior and eastern portions a brighter, sunnier climate with greater extremes of temperature, more snowfall, and usually a somewhat greater rainfall.

**Healthfulness.** With such evenness of temperature, abundance and good distribution of rainfall, constant ocean breezes, and a redundancy of pure mountain streams, combined with a complete absence of swamps, pools, reservoirs, and irrigation ditches, it requires no great medical skill or prescience to deduce the fact that Humboldt's climate is one of the healthiest in the world. Where the average daily range of temperature is less than 11 degrees the physical organization is spared the shocks and wrenches due to sudden and marked changes in temperature. Here workmen usually wear the same weight of clothing in summer as in winter; flowers come out of doors throughout the year; and strawberries and raspberries frequently bloom late in autumn, and ripen near midwinter. Malarial diseases are almost unknown, and contagions and epidemics rarely assume a serious form. The ocean breezes on the one hand,—the mountains on the other,—perform Nature's purifying work in her own perfect manner. It is doubtful if the Pacific coast has any equal area where the health conditions are so favorable.







**Population** The population of Humboldt County was, in 1880, 15,512; in 1890, 23,469; in 1900, 27,104; in 1910, 33,857. Allowing the same rate of increase since 1910 as was found in the decade from 1900 to 1910, the population at the end of 1914 was 37,665. 40 per cent of this population was in the City of Eureka; 20 per cent in the eleven next larger cities and towns; and the remaining 40 per cent in the smaller towns and rural districts.

About 68 per cent of the total population is native born white, and 27 per cent is foreign born white. Nearly 5 per cent is of Indian descent, and the census of 1910 lists 40 negroes, 6 Chinese, and 6 Japanese. Of the foreign born population, the largest number is from Canada; and the remainder chiefly from northern Europe and from Italy. From the first settlements in 1850, the growth of population has been slow but steady; and the nationality and character of the newcomers has been largely determined by the dominant influence of the lumber industry, and of late years by dairying.

**Transportation.** Although not connected with the outer world by rail until late in the year 1914, Humboldt had made surprising development prior to that time; and this was made possible by its possession of a safe and commodious harbor, accessible to vessels of all but the deepest draft. And while the new railroad will certainly be a most important element in the future development of the county, its water communication will always remain the dominant factor in the transportation of many of its products, and will always insure steady and reasonable freight rates. An average of about 1,000 vessels passes in and out of Humboldt Bay yearly, their tonnage approximating 10,000 net tons. These carry the lumber and other products of Humboldt to all the ports of the Pacific Coast, and to many foreign countries. The opening of the Panama Canal will greatly increase these shipments, especially of lumber, to the eastern coast of the United States. Humboldt has three lines of regular freight and passenger steamers plying to San Francisco, and one line to Coos Bay, Astoria, and Portland, Oregon. Five or six lines of steam schooners carrying lumber, other freight, and passengers, furnish connections with all the California ports. Sea going gasoline power boats run to all ports north of Humboldt as far as the Chetco river, Oregon. In summer, steam schooners run from San Francisco to Shelter Cove, and Mattole Landing, near the mouth of the Mattole river.

The recently completed line of the Northwestern Pacific Railroad runs from San Francisco via Sausalito or Tiburon to Eureka, 8 miles, and on through Arcata to Trinidad, 28 miles further north. For the major portion of its course through Humboldt it flows down the valley of Eel river, and in all the upper half of this very much development in horticulture and agriculture is expected; in fact, is under way. The land here is very fertile, but hilly;







and fruit and nut culture, to both of which uses it is adapted, are expected to be large factors in the new development due to the railroad.

Humboldt has eleven lines of local railroad with an aggregate length of 180 miles. Two of these roads do an extensive general freight and passenger business; the others are confined to logging and lumbering uses.

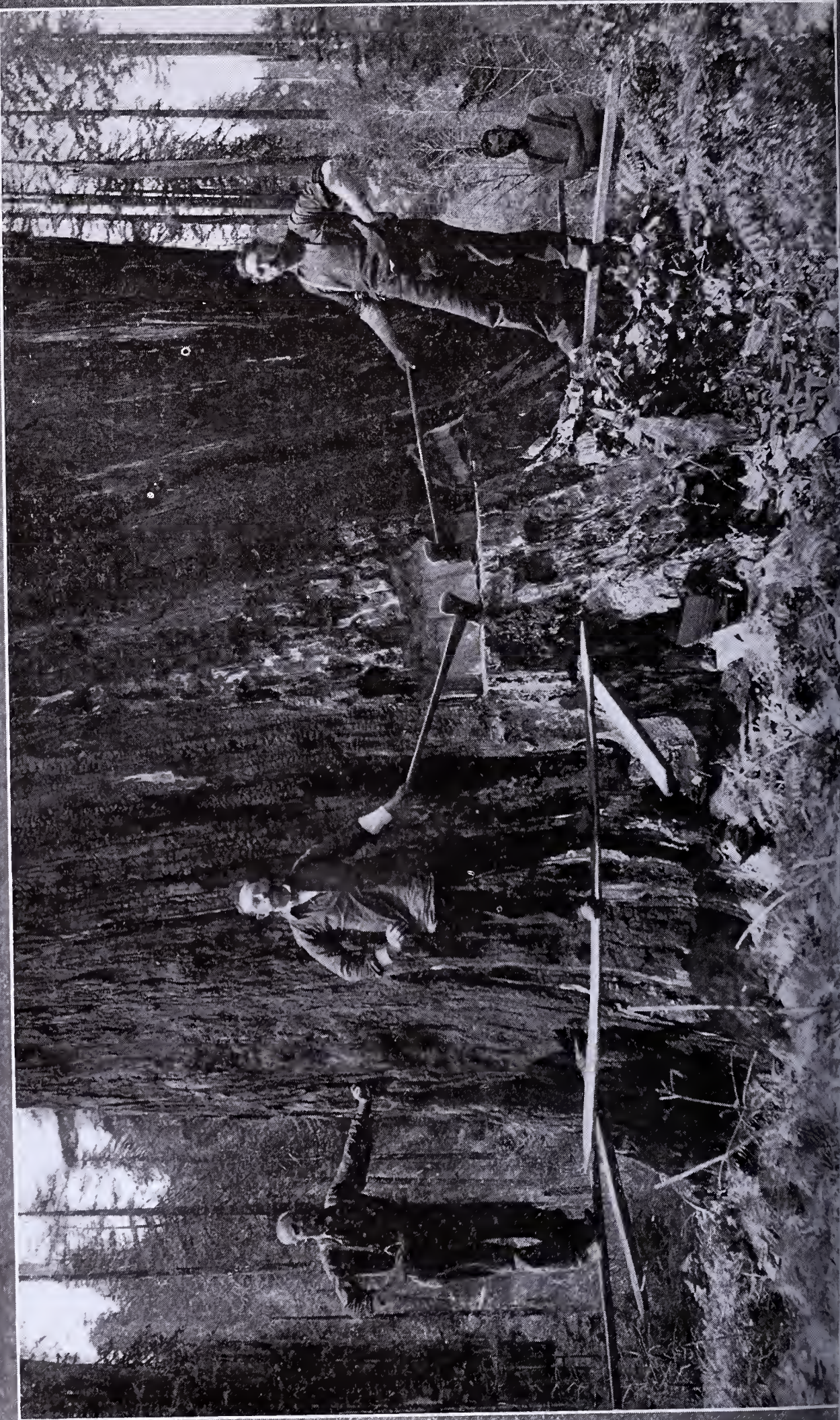
Good wagon roads connect all points of importance in the county. The road north along the coast gives connection with Crescent City, Del Norte County. Two roads to the south give outlets to Menocino County,—one near the coast, and the other, which is the main overland road,—in the interior. A road to the eastern boundary of the county connects with the Trinity State Highway, and gives access to the upper Sacramento valley. The State Highway now being constructed through the entire length of the county north and south, will greatly improve local transportation facilities, and will provide a main artery of travel fed by the lateral roads of the county system.

By reason of its excellent water communication, Humboldt has always been an important **commerce.** commercial county, the annual trade of the Port of Eureka reaching about \$17,500,000, of which the outward shipments of its products cover a little more than \$10,000,000, and the remainder is the value of its importations. Of the export values, lumber in its various forms accounts for about 69 per cent of the total, of which over 10 per cent goes foreign; dairy products reach about 22 per cent of the total; and live stock, fish, agricultural products, leather, and miscellaneous items make up the remainder. Full records of the importations are not available, but they are made up of clothing, groceries, merchandise, machinery, and general supplies for a population of nearly 40,000.

As timber is the greatest present asset of **lumbering.** Humboldt, so lumbering is, has been for many years past, and will be for many years to come, the chief industry. There are 11 large saw mills in the county, whose output, added to that of the shingle mills, moulding mills, make up the total of about 375,000,000 feet of all timber products now shipped from Humboldt annually, the value of which averages about \$7,000,000 yearly. Redwood is an admirable building material, as its qualities of weather resistance, its lack of combustible elements, and its adaptability for patterns, mouldings, tanks, flumes, and house finishing make it one of the most useful commercial woods. The great size of the trees makes it possible to get out planks of almost any desired width and thickness, all of even texture, and without flaw or blemish.

The saw mills of Humboldt county and the logging plants and roads operated in connection with them furnish nearly steady







employment to from 3,000 to 4,000 men; and the twenty or more shingle mills and four sash, door, and moulding mills employ approximately 1,200 additional men. The pay rolls of the saw mills and subsidiary operations are a prime factor in the supporting trade of Humboldt.

**Farming.** Although the soil of Humboldt is everywhere fertile, its small percentage of level lands, and the fact that fully one half, and that the best half, of those lands have been given over to dairying, prevent it from taking a high rank as an agricultural county. Time was when it was the greatest producer of oats, potatoes and pease in the State; but the lands which formerly produced such splendid crops of these grains and vegetables have now largely been devoted to the more certain and profitable dairying. But oats, barley, wheat, potatoes, pease, and other grains and vegetables, as well as most excellent hay, are still grown in the valleys and on the uplands of Humboldt, although in quantities not much in excess of the home requirements. The yield of all these crops, entirely without irrigation, is so large as to be most phenomenal. In oats, on land sown to that grain for perhaps thirty years continuously, crops of from 60 to 120 bushels per acre are not looked upon as uncommon. And the other grains and vegetables are equally prolific. Humboldt oats are of excellent quality,—bright, plump, and heavy; often weighting forty pounds the bushel, or more. Oat hay of the very best quality is one of the principal farm products, and finds a ready sale in the local markets.

Humboldt was the first county in the State to secure the services of a Farm Adviser, appointed by the University of California, and supported jointly by that body and the county. In the nearly ten years since his appointment, the Adviser has aided the farmers very materially in meeting the various problems which confront them. And not the least of his service has been the arousing of interest in the betterment of their methods, and the organization of a substantial Farm Bureau, with active centers in each of the farming districts of the county.

**Horticulture.** No section of the Pacific Coast is better adapted to general horticulture than Humboldt County. The soil, the climate,—all essential natural conditions,—are ideally suited to the production of all the fruits of the temperate zone, and everywhere except along the extreme coast these are produced in their full perfection. In the warmer, better sheltered sections of the county such semi-tropical fruits as oranges and lemons will produce and ripen, although no attempt has been made to grow them commercially. Grapes of fair quality are raised in a number of places in the county. Although these citrus fruits and grapes will grow here in favored sections, it is the fruits of the temperate zone that are best adapted to this section. The nectarine, peach, pear, apricot, plum, prune,







cherry, and all the small fruits and berries mature to perfection and in fullest profusion in nearly all parts of the county, and the almond and walnut find here both soil and climate for their healthy growth and bearing. Many thousands of walnut trees have recently been planted in the Mattole Valley, which has been proven to be well suited to this tree. For many years considerable quantities of excellent walnuts have been produced at such widely separated points as Orleans, Blocksburg, Rio Dell, and the Mattole.

But the king of fruits in Humboldt is the apple, of which all varieties do well in nearly all sections of the county. Naturally the best apples are produced in the valleys and on the hill lands away from the coast, but there is no reasonable location in Humboldt where, with proper care and attention, good wholesome apples may not be raised. The amount of land suited to the raising of apples is so great as to be reckoned in hundreds of thousands of acres. Every valley, plateau, and table land of the hill section of the county is ideally suited to the purpose. And this land is cheap, as much of it is now held at from \$10 to \$25 per acre as grazing land. Along the upper Eel river the line of the newly completed railroad bisects a large area of these lands, and here the first effects of the new development will be felt. Already two or three large tracts along the railroad are being prepared for subdivision and settlement, and soon every nook and corner will blossom with thrifty, profitable orchards.

In the autumn of 1912, and again in 1913, Mr. George E. Howe, Vice-President of the American Pomological Society, and an eminent authority on apples and fruit growing in general, visited Humboldt, and on each occasion made a careful study of the conditions and possibilities here in apples and other fruit. His conclusions thereon are well set forth in the following letter written by him to Hon. W. S. Clark, Chairman of the Humboldt Promotion and Development Committee:

"Eureka, Cal., Sept. 29, 1913.

W. S. CLARK,  
"Chairman Humboldt Promotion Committee,  
"Eureka, California,

My Dear Sir:—

After having spent the month of September examining your valleys, hills, and table lands; consulting with your oldest settlers, teachers, and fruit growers; examining fruits in the old orchards and vineyards that have had but little care, I am even more optimistic than I was last year when I told you that Humboldt County is the most perfect garden spot in America, and that your soil and climate under proper direction would yield millions to future generations, where your redwoods have yielded thousands to the present.

"That is true and it might be stated even stronger, for the range of fruits and vegetables of the highest class that can be







grown here at a good profit can not be equalled in any place in the world. Apples, pears, peaches, prunes, grapes, as well as the best small fruits and vegetables, can not only be grown commercially, but can be placed in the world's greatest markets to better advantage and at less actual cost than from most of the other fruit sections of the West.

"What has increased the value of your redwoods? Twenty years ago and even less, they could be bought for from \$6.00 to \$12.00 per acre, while the same timber today is worth from \$500 to \$2000 per acre. The redwood is no better than it was twenty years ago, but men of genius and means have found a way to put it on the market at a reasonable cost. Fifteen or twenty years ago, our dairy lands were worth from \$25 to \$50 an acre. The land is no better today than then, but the land is worth today from \$300 to \$500 an acre. Why?

"Because men who have made a study of the industry have found a way to produce the goods and find a market for dairy products at a large profit. What has been true of the dairy industry will be true of the fruit industry in the hands of men who will put the same energy into the one that the other requires. The successful development of any industry requires men with knowledge, coupled with ambition.

"Humboldt County has the soil, on its hills, table lands, and valleys, that is well adapted to dairying and fruit growing, and a climate that is equally adapted for the growing of the highest qualities of fruits.

"With the opening of the Panama Canal and the new railroad transportation, I look forward to the time when Humboldt County will boast thousands of happy, successful farm homes, where today there are but hundreds.

"G. E. ROWE."

With all these favorable conditions, and with the added fact that good apples and other fruits have been raised and marketed here for fifty years or more, it is inevitable that within a few years Humboldt will dominate the apple markets of the Pacific Coast, and her fame as a producer of the choicest of fruits will spread throughout the land. For she has the soil and the climate, and it has been fully demonstrated that she can produce in abundance the very finest varieties of this fruit.

**Dairying.** This industry, second in importance to lumbering, and perhaps the first in the steadiness and certainty of its returns, has made remarkable advances in the last three decades. Prior to 1880, it was mainly dependent upon the native grasses of the seaward slopes, but with the recognition of clover as the great staple food for dairy herds, a complete revolution occurred in this industry; and the establishment of creameries and improvement in the quality and breeding of the dairy stock following a greater knowledge and experience







in the business, have completed the transformation. Nearly all the heavy bottom and marsh lands of the lower Eel River Valley, the Arcata Bottom, and around Humboldt Bay, have been proven capable of producing heavy crops of clover and other forage plants the year round, as Nature furnishes abundant moisture to keep them green and growing at all times. And with these crops as staples, with alfalfa, corn, and vegetables as side dishes, from one to two acres of these lands are found amply sufficient to keep a cow in good condition the year round, where formerly from five to seven acres were thought necessary. Thus has it come to pass that the very cream of the agricultural lands of Humboldt is now monopolized by its leading agricultural industry,—dairying. But dairy grazing is not confined to the bottom and marsh lands. Much of the level, hill, and bench land adjoining the lower bottom lands, and also of the coast hill lands north and south of the principal dairying centers, is also devoted to this profitable use. Altogether, some 40,000 acres are now put to dairy uses in this county, and in the neighborhood of 25,000 dairy cows graze upon them.

At one time there were 32 creameries in Humboldt, but by combination and consolidation these are now reduced to eight; most of the disused creameries being utilized as skimming stations. There are two plants manufacturing dry (powdered) milk, and one condensed milk factory. Two or three of the creamery plants make cheese, and casein is also made in considerable quantities.

The total shipments of dairy products from Humboldt now aggregate nearly eleven millions of pounds yearly, of a value closely approximating two and one quarter millions of dollars. This in addition to the home consumption of its 40,000 people. Of the shipments, butter constitutes a little more than one half of the weight and about eight tenths of the value.

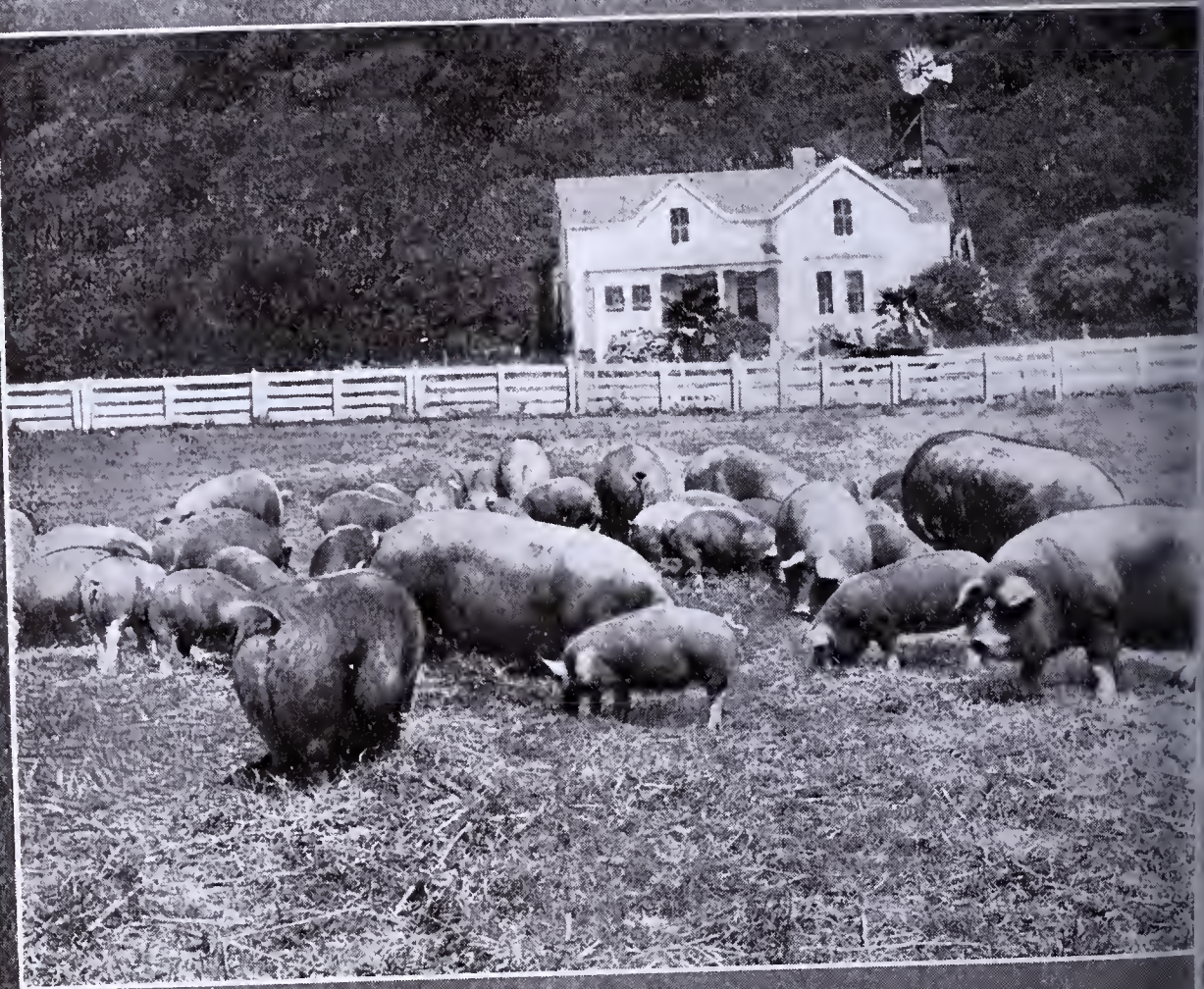
The cool, even climate of Humboldt is a strong factor in the high development of this industry; for both the dairy cow and her product are the better for not having to endure the excessive heat common to the summer months in less favored places. And the United States Government has recognized this advantage, as for several years past it has annually contracted for from a quarter of a million to half a million pounds of Eel River Valley butter, which is scanned under the supervision of a government official, and shipped to the naval base at Mare Island, or elsewhere as required.

**Stock Raising.** This is an important industry in Humboldt. The "bald hill" land east of the redwood belt and the shore section south of the Eel River Valley, including the fertile Mattole Valley, furnish pasturage for thousands of cattle, sheep, and other domestic animals. Nearly one third of the area of the county is devoted to this use, and both soil and climate conditions make Humboldt grazing land the very best in the State. From 3,000 to 5,000 head each of cattle, sheep, and hogs are annually shipped or driven from the





ONE PRODUCT OF HUMBOLDT.



AND ANOTHER.



county, and the financial returns therefrom is not less than one third of a million dollars.

The wool production is also important. The features of the climate which make this section ideal for stock raising contribute to its advantages for wool growing, and Humboldt wool has long been noted for its long staple and its freedom from burrs and other troublesome features. In the market it commands the highest figures, and the annual shipments amount to an average of 500,000 pounds.

**Fish.** Commercial fishing plays an important though variable part in the county's industries. Halibut and rock cod in the ocean, salmon and steel head in Eel river and the Klamath, and a variety of fishes in Humboldt Bay, make up an industry which yields handsome returns. From one to two million pounds of fresh salmon and halibut, and a greater amount of canned salmon from the Klamath, are annually shipped to San Francisco. Crabs and clams of excellent quality are abundant, and along the rocks near Trinidad, mussels are plentiful.

**Porting.** The opportunities for sport with the rod and gun are exceptionally good in Humboldt. In any of its streams trout, salmon, or steel head may be taken with the rod and line in season, and the bay and deep sea fishing are unsurpassed.

In the mountains deer abound; and bears, panthers, and various other animals are often to be found. Quail, grouse, squirrels, and other small game are plentiful. In the season, wild ducks and geese, brant, and other birds are numerous on the marsh lands about the Bay and the various lagoons and rivers. Numerous hostries and resorts along the various streams and elsewhere in the county, furnish accommodations for the hunter and the fisherman. A special note is the steel head fishing on Eel river, where, at the proper season, this delectable fish rises gamely to the fly, and furnishes the highest quality of piscatorial sport. Many residents of other parts of the State are aware of the attractions of Eel river fishing, and make annual pilgrimages to its shores and reaches.

**mining.** In northeastern Humboldt, along the Trinity and Klamath rivers and their tributaries, placer mining for gold is, and has been for fifty years and more, the chief industry. No exceptionally rich diggings are found, but all the gravel bars and benches of that section bear a share of the yellow metal. Copper outcroppings are numerous throughout this section, and at Horse Mountain, in the Willow Creek district, two copper mines are being thoroughly prospected and developed by private capital. In southwestern Humboldt, from Bear river through the Mattole Valley to Brice land, many seepages and other indications of petroleum are found. At various times and places prospect wells have been driven, but oil in paying quantities has not been found.





A HYDRAULIC MINE NEAR ORLEANS.



HUMBOLDT'S HILLY GRAZING LANDS.



**Manufactures.** Aside from lumber and timber products, the manufacturing interests are but little developed, leather to the extent of \$225,000 yearly, and tan oak extract of a value averaging \$60,000, being the principal items. There is abundant material and opportunity for the manufacture of furniture, wooden ware and utensils, wood pulp and paper, woolen goods, boots and shoes, harness, etc. Fuel is abundant and cheap, water plentiful, and the climate very favorable to all the year round work.

**Prices of Land.** It is only possible to give general prices of land, without allowance for the many variations in price due to location and the conditions which lead to sale.

The best farming and dairying lands, being the heavy bottom and marsh lands of the lower Eel and Mad river valleys and around Humboldt Bay, are held at from \$250 to \$500 per acre. Sale has been made of such land as high as \$850 per acre.

Upland of similar character but not so well suited to dairying, and bench lands where close to market, are held at from \$100 to \$200 per acre.

Bottom lands in the outlying valleys more remote from market, are held at from \$100 to \$200 per acre; and the bench and hill lands adjacent to them, at from \$25 to \$75 per acre.

Redwood stump land, if comparatively level, is held at from \$20 to \$100 per acre. If hilly, from \$10 to \$20 or \$25.

Hill grazing land in tracts of considerable size for grazing purposes is held at from \$6 to \$20 per acre. This is the "cheap" land of the county, and much of it is sure to be developed as fruit and vine land, especially where transportation reaches, as now along the new railroad. In such conditions the prices are soon augmented, and it is no longer a grazing proposition.

Redwood timber land is now almost universally sold by the M feet of estimated stumpage. Where fairly available, stumpage prices now run from \$2 to \$4 per M feet; which for fairly good redwood land makes the acreage price run from \$200 to say \$800.

Pine and fir timber, if available, is worth from \$1 to \$1.50 per M feet stumpage. If distant from the market, then from 50 cents to \$1 per M feet up. The various hardwood timber lands have no fixed standards of price.







REDWOOD STUMP LAND.



AND WHAT BECOMES OF IT.



## Cities and Towns.

**Eureka,** an incorporated city of 15,000 inhabitants, advantageously located on the eastern shore of Humboldt Bay, is the county seat and business center of the county. Its streets are well paved, well lighted, and well kept. A street railway company operates  $12\frac{1}{2}$  miles of lines within the city limits. It has a good municipal water system, electric light and power and gas plants; good schools, including a high school and a business college; five banks, two daily and two weekly newspapers, many churches, benevolent and fraternal societies, and clubs; federal, county and city public buildings; four saw mills and three shingle mills; a fine natural redwood park; and all the amusement features usual to a city of its size. It is an important commercial center, and has direct connection by rail and by water with all principal points on the Pacific Coast.

**Arcata,** an incorporated city of 1,600 people, is located at the north end of Humboldt Bay, 8 miles north of Eureka by rail. It has a State Normal school, union high school, two banks, a weekly newspaper, and several wood working plants. It has an extensive mountain trade.

**Ferndale,** an incorporated city of about 1,200 people is the commercial center of the lower Eel river dairy section. It is five miles south of Fernbridge, its station on the N. W. P. R. R., which station is 15 miles south of Eureka. It is a prosperous agricultural section.

**Fortuna,** an incorporated city of 1,200 people, is on the N. W. P. R. R., 18 miles south of Eureka. It is a thriving progressive town, backed by a rich agricultural and lumbering section.

**Blue Lake,** 8 miles northeast of Arcata, on the A. & M. R. R., is an incorporated town of some 700 people. It has an exceptionally good climate, and is the center of a fine mining and lumbering district.

**Fields Landing,** 6 miles south of Eureka, on the N. W. P. R. R., is the shipping point for southern Humboldt, and has the workshops of the railroad.

**Orleta,** on the N. W. P. R. R., 13 miles south of Eureka, is an important dairy center, and has a condensed milk and dry milk factory.

**Union,** at the junction of the Vanduzen branch with the N. W. P. R. R. line, 21 miles south of Eureka, is surrounded by a fine agricultural section.

**Clotta,** at the southern end of the Vanduzen branch of the N. W. P. R. R., 26 miles from Eureka, is an important depot for mountain trade.







**Rohnerville,** one of the oldest towns in the Eel River Valley, is 22 miles from Eureka, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the railroad. It has an extensive farm trade.

**Hydesville,** 3 miles southeast of Rohnerville, is beautifully located on an extensive agricultural plateau, and one mile from the line of the Vanduzen branch of the N. W. P. R.

**Trinidad,** 28 miles north of Eureka, is the northern terminus of the N. W. P. R. R. It has a most picturesque location on Trinidad Bay, a fine open roadstead.

**Arcata,** 1,300 people, 28 miles south of Eureka on the N. W. P. R. R.;

**Fortuna,** 900 people, on the west side of Humboldt Bay, one mile from Eureka; and

**Orbel,** 600 people, 4 miles east of Blue Lake, at the terminus of the A. & M. R. R. R.; are the three most important towns in Humboldt, each being the home town and mill site of one of the three largest lumber companies in Humboldt.

**Metropolitan,** 24 miles south of Eureka on the railroad, is also an important mill town.

Pepperwood, Shively, Dyerville, Fort Seward, and Alder Point, towns of considerable importance on or near the railroad extension through southern Humboldt. At Ft. Seward,  $67\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Eureka, extensive preparations are being made to found a living town, and to settle and develop the surrounding country.

Petrolia, in the southwestern, Briceland, Garberville, Blocksburg, and Bridgeville in the southern and southeastern portions of the county, are the centers of farm, fruit, and grazing sections.

Orleans, Weitchpec, and Martin's Ferry, on the Klamath, and Fortuna Flat, on the Trinity river, are the principal mining towns in the northeastern part of the county.

## **SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL.**

The county offers many social and educational advantages. Churches of almost every denomination, fraternal and benevolent societies and societies of nearly every order, and clubs both social and objective, are found in all the principal cities and towns. A large and active Chautauqua Association holds annual Chautauqua meetings at Eureka.

The public schools are of the very best standard and efficiency, and are equal to any in the State. Well conducted high schools are located at Eureka, Arcata, Ferndale, and Fortuna. A State normal school was established at Arcata in 1914. An excellent business college and a good preparatory school are strong factors in the educational facilities of Eureka.







## POTENT FACTS.

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Amboldt Has:—

Great extent; good lands at fair prices; its own lumber, fuel, food, wool, and leather; equable temperature, abundant rainfall, and consequent healthfulness; diversity of products, great natural resources, balance of trade always in its favor.

Has Not:—

Chinese or Japanese; Spanish or railroad grants; irrigation; various pests of vegetables or fruit; summer thunder storms, cold winters, severe frosts, cyclones, or blizzards; crop failures, from any cause.

Needs:—

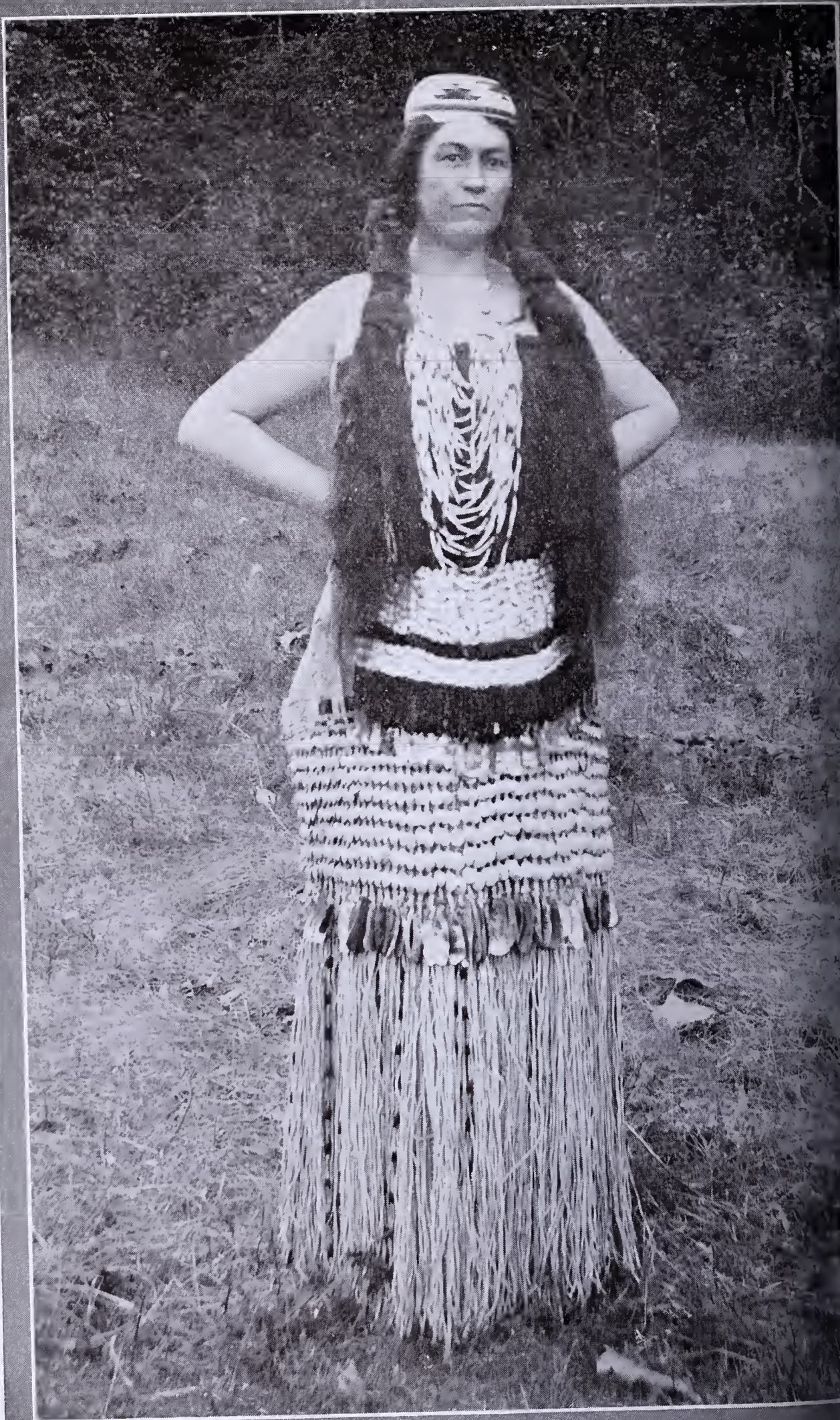
More capital and more manufactures.  
Capable, energetic settlers, who mean business.



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